

disabled persons, certain categories of patients, Senior Citizens, etc.

In addition to the above, concession on ad-hoc basis were also granted to delegates for attending Annual Conferences of certain organisations of Social, Educational and Cultural importance, students of some educational institutions and persons for attending National Integration Camps of certain organisations. The total number of these concessions were as under :

	1994	1995	1996
Conference :	62	55	54
Students :	22	24	8
National Integration Camps :	40	35	42

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Role of Junior Telecom Staff

1318. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC);

(b) if so, the objectives thereof; and

(c) the time by which the CERC is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government is in the process of finalising the proposal and it is expected that a Bill will be introduced in the Monsoon Session of the Parliament.

#### Role of Junior Telecom Staff

1319. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Not Cricket: Dirty tricks on the dirt track. The telecom tangle" appeared in the Business Standard, New Delhi on July 8, 1997; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Sir, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Railway Vending Stall at South Concourse and New Coaching Complex

1320. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the passengers are facing hardships in absence of any Railway Vending Stall at the South Concourse and New Coaching Complex of Howrah Railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether demands of the passenger are fulfilled by the unauthorised hawkers;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to allow the situation to continue at the cost of Railway; and

(e) if not, the steps taken to set up some stalls at New Coaching Complex and others at the wall of the South Concourse of the Station?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Sale of different eatable items including cold drinks, mineral water, tea, coffee, etc. are made available to the passengers through mobile platform vending. Besides, the snack bar and stalls on the first floor of the building are also well patronised. These facilities are adequate to meet the passengers' requirements.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. Regular checks are undertaken for evicting the unauthorised hawkers from station premises. Provision of catering stalls at South Concourse and New Coaching Complex has not been considered necessary.

#### Power Generation in 8th Plan

1321. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total power generated both hydel and thermal in the country by the close of the Eighth Plan as against the installed capacity;

(b) the comparative rise in power generation cost and resultant rise in power tariff in the country;

(c) the power generation projection both thermal and hydel during the Ninth Plan period; and

(d) the strategy formulated by the Government to achieve the projected power generation to bridge the gap between demand and supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The details of the total power generated